

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2242
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
NATIONAL WAGE POLICY
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate a National Wage Policy in order to make right to work as a fundamental right;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether a uniform wage policy is likely to be formulated for men and women?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) & (b): Formulation of a National Wage Policy has not been contemplated on considerations of issues such as prices, employment, productivity, social justice and capital formation as well as structural features of the economy. In view of this, there is no proposal to make 'right to work' as fundamental right.

(c): The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 which provides for fixation, revision and enforcement of minimum wages in the scheduled employments, does not discriminate between male and female workers.

The Government have also enacted a legislation namely Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 which ensures equal wages to women workers for the same work or work of similar nature. The Act provides for fine/imprisonment for making discrimination between men and women workers in violation of the statutory provisions of the Act.